



# US Forest Service Response to Montana EQC Inquiry

July 26, 2018

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
COUNCIL 2017-18

July 26, 2018

Exhibit 4

## USFS wildfire response

- From 2008-2017, the US Forest Service's Northern Region (specific to inside the State of Montana), recorded 18,018 wildfires, which burned 3,662,832 acres. The statistical average is 1,802 fires for 366,282 acres burned annually.
- During this 10-year period, of the 18,018 recorded fires, 529 were considered "large fires" which are categorized as 100+ acres in timber or 300+ acres in grass.
- Over the past 10 years, 96%-97% of the fires were controlled under the "large" fire size category. There is no "target" success rate established by policy.
- This information can be found at the Northern Rockies Coordination Center's website: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/index.htm>

**Note:** Definitions and a discussion of operational concepts associated with the 2017 Montana Cooperative Fire Master Agreement can be found in the July 6, 2018 handout provided by MTDNRC to EQC.

Informational testimony delivered by USFS Northern Region Deputy Regional Forester Jane Darnell

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